

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION IMPLEMENTS NEW RESPONSIBLE AND ETHICAL CONDUCT OF RESEARCH (RECR) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Dear Colleagues,

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has issued a new mandate that expands the existing **Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research (RECR)** training requirements.

What is new?

For proposals submitted to NSF on or after July 31, 2023, all researchers, including faculty, post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students, and other senior personnel named on proposals to NSF must complete RECR training before engaging in research projects sponsored by the NSF.

How is this different from NSF's previous policy?

This requirement reflects two changes:

- the RECR training requirement has expanded, and now applies to **faculty and other senior personnel**, as well as undergraduates, graduate students and postdoctoral researchers, and
- the RECR training must include training on mentorship.

What is the Principal Investigator's responsibility?

Principal Investigators are responsible for ensuring all researchers, including faculty, post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students, and other senior personnel supported through their grant(s) complete training at the start of work on the research project.

What training is required to satisfy the NSF RECR requirement?

The Office of the Vice-President for Research is reviewing current RECR training modules in the CITI Program and the implementation of this new requirement. More information will be coming soon.

What do you need to do now?

The Office of Research Compliance will be issuing additional guidance for this new training requirement. The implementation of this guidance will be in a manner that minimizes burden on investigators and study team members. New guidance will include both CITI Program modules to be completed as well as a timeframe for completion.

Who do I need to contact for more information?

For questions about this the NSF RECR policy or questions about RECR training, please contact Rebecca Dahl at rebecca.dahl@stonybrook.edu in the Office of Research Compliance.